Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 01432 112213Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PER-03 MMO-04 ABF-01
OMB-01 /037 W
----------112236Z 028168 /75
P 112135Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9830

UNCLAS ASUNCION 1432

FOR ARA/MGT GERSHENSON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, AMGT
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION

REF: LANDAU-GERSHENSON TELCON 4/11/77

1. MISSION PROPOSES THAT AS AN ALTERNATE TO RETENTION OF THE JUNIOR POLTITICAL OFFICER POSITION, SCHEDULED TO BE ABOLISHED ON THE DEPARTURE OF THE INCUMBENT NEXT JULY, A JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION BE ESTABLISHED.

2. THE POST RELUCTANTLY AGREED EARLY IN 1976 TO SURRENDER ITS JUNIOR POLITICAL OFFICER POSITION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN FS INSPECTORS' RECOMMENDATION THE YEAR PREVIOUS. EXPERIENCE SINCE THEN HAS SHOWN THAT THERE IS A REAL NEED TO HAVE THE SERVICES OF A JUNIOR OFFICER TO COVER A NUMBER OF RELATED FIELDS, BOTH CONSULAR AND POLITICAL. BECAUSE THIS POSITION HAS BEEN IN THE POLITICAL SECTION, THE EMBASSY REQUESTED IN THE CURRENT PARM CYCLE (SEE ASUNCION 1225, PART III-B) THAT THE JUNIOR POLITICAL OFFICER SLOT BE RETAINED.

3. THE FUNCTIONS COULD ALSO BE PERFORMED LOGICALLY BY A JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER, AND IN SOME RESPECTS THIS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ASUNCI 01432 112213Z

WOULD REPRESENT AN IMPROVEMENT OVER THE PRESENT STAFFING CONFIGURATION. THERE HAS BEEN A PARALLEL HEAVY INCREASE IN TWO NOT UNRELATED AREAS: CONSULAR PROTECTION AND WELFARE CASES AND POLITICAL REFUGEES; AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS. THERE HAVE BEEN MOUNTING DEMANDS ON THE MISSION IN BOTH AREAS GENERATED BY HEIGHTENED CONGRESSIONAL, ACADEMIC, PRESS AND PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS IN THE UNITED

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

STATES, AND THIS HAS REQUIRED THE FULL TIME ATTENTION OF THE
JUNIOR POLITICAL OFFICER, WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS SITTING
IN HIS OWN SECTION OR SERVING IN A CONSULAR CAPACITY
(AS THE PRIMARY BACKUP TO OUR ONE-MAN CONSULATE). THIS
JOB HAS INVOLVED SO MCUH ACTIVITY IN THE CONSULAR FIELD,
IN FACT, THAT THE DEPARTMENT BROUGHT THE INCUMBENT JUNIOR
OFFICER BACK TO WASHINGTON ON TDY LAST SUMMER TO GIVE
HIM FORMAL CONSULAR TRAINING.

4.SPECIFICALLY, A JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER ASSIGNED TO ASUNCION
TO ARRIVE AT THE TIME THE INCUMBENT JUNIOR POLITICAL
OFFICER IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART (JULY) WOULD PERFORM THE
FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:
(A) ACROSS THE BOARD CONSULAR WORK, TO ASSIST THE
CONSUL AND TO SUBSTITUTE FOR HIM DURING ANY ABSENCES.
THIS WOULD BE AN IDEAL TRAINING ASSIGNMENT, SINCE
ALL CONSULAR FUNCTIONS ARE PERFORMED HERE.
(B) SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PROTECTION AND WELFARE,
INCLUDING FIELD TRIPS INTO THE BACKCOUNTRY TO SERVE
THE NEEDS OF ISOLATED OR ENDANGERED AMERICAN RESIDENTS.
THE PAST YEAR HAS SEEN A NUMBER OF POTENTIALLY EMBARASSING
PROBLEMS INVOLVING THE WELFARE AND SAFETY OF AMERICAN
RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE BOONDOCKS, REQUIRING INTERVEN-
TION BY THE EMBASSY TO PREVENT THEM FROM GETTING OUT
OF HAND. THESE TYPES OF PROBLEMS ARE LIKELY TO INCREASE.
WITH PARAGUAY'S ECONOMIC EXPANSION ENTERING HIGH GEAR
THERE HAS BEEN A STEADY BUILD UP IN NUMBERS OF AMERICANS
INTERESTED IN INVESTING HERE AND IN SETTLING DOWN, AN
INORDINATE NUMBER OF WHOM SEEM TO RUN AFOUL PARAGUAYAN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ASUNCI 01432 112213Z

LAW OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.
(C) POLITICAL REFUGEE CASES. THE EMBASSY ANTI-
CIPATES A STEADY GROWTH IN THIS CATEGORY, AS INCREASING
NUMBERS OF REFUGEES ARRIVE FROM CHILE, ARGENTINA AND
URUGUAY, AND INVARIABLY COME TO US FOR ASSISTANCE. THERE
ARE SEVERAL CASES PENDING NOW WHICH HAVE BEEN HANDLED BY
THE JUNIOR POLITICAL OFFICER, IN HIS RESIDUAL CONSULAR
CAPACITY.

5. THE JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER WOULD BE EXPECTED TO SPEND
AT LEAST HALF OF HIS TIME, AND POSSIBLY MORE, REPORTING
ON ANDINVESTIGATING THE FULL RANGE OF HUMAN
RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN PARAGUAY, INCLUDING POLITICAL
PRISONERS, CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS, AND THE SITUATION
OF PARAGUAY'S ESTIMATED 50,000 UNASSIMILATED INDIANS.
WITHRESPECT TO THE LATTER THE JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER EACH
YEAR WOULD MAKE SEVERAL FIELD TRIPS TO THE MOST REMOTE
SECTIONS OF THE COUNTRY, MANY OF WHICH ARE
UNDER THE AEGIS OF RESIDENT AMERICAN MISSIONARIES.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

6. SEVERAL OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY
THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE JUNIOR POLITICAL OFFICER
WOLULD BE HANDLED BY THE JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER. A
KEY AREA WOULD BE TO COORDINATE EMBASSY NARCOTICS
REPORTING WITH THE ASUNCION DISTRICT OFFICE OF DEA, AS
WELL AS REPRESENTING THE CONSULAR AND POLITICAL SECTIONS
IN THE EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

7. EMBASSY HOPES DEPARTMENT WILL AGREE TO ESTABLISHING
THIS POSITION. MISSION WILL INCLUDE THIS PROPOSAL
IN CONSULAR BUDGET PACKAGE WHEN RECEIVED.
LANDAU

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ASUNCI01432
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770125-0959
Format: TEL
From: ASUNCION
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770470/aaaacizi.tel
Line Count: 129
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5152bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2847520
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION
TAGS: AFSP, AMGT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5152bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009